

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated April 26, 2006, claims 1, 2, 4-10, and 12-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 5,864,870 (Guck); and claims 3 and 11 were rejected under § 103 over Guck in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,496,868 (Krueger).

It is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Guck. Amended claim 1 recites a method of organizing data in a storage device that comprises receiving data in the storage device, transforming the received data into plural data objects, storing the plural data objects in corresponding plural hierarchical data structures, where each of the hierarchical data structures contains plural levels of data objects, and receiving an access request containing an identifier of one of the hierarchical data structures.

It is respectfully submitted that Guck does not disclose the use of plural hierarchical data structures. The hierarchy depicted in Figs. 4A-4B of Guck is *one* hierarchy. In fact, various passages of Guck refer to “a” hierarchy, not to multiple hierarchies. For example, the Abstract of Guck refers to transformed objects being stored in “a” hierarchy. A stated object of the purported invention of Guck is transforming incoming files into objects for storage in a database and organizing the transformed files into “a hierarchy of objects” Guck, 1:60-65. Guck also states in its Summary of the Invention section that each of transformed objects is stored into “a hierarchy” Guck, 3:33-36. Therefore, Guck does not disclose storing plural data objects in corresponding plural hierarchical data structures.

Since Guck discloses use of just a single hierarchy, not plural hierarchical data structures, Guck further does not disclose receiving an access request containing an *identifier* of one of the hierarchical data structures. In fact, because Guck describes only a single hierarchy, there is no need to use an identifier in an access request. Figs. 5A-5B and the accompanying text of Guck describes storing a virtual file into the database. Figs. 6A-6C and the accompanying text of Guck describe the process steps for retrieving a virtual file object from the database, in which a “get” request is sent to the server 15 to retrieve the virtual file. These passages of Guck do not make any reference to including an identifier of one of plural hierarchical data structures in an access request, as recited in claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by Guck. Amended independent claims 9 and 16 are similarly allowable over Guck.

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Dependent claims, including newly added dependent claims 22-28, are allowable for at least the same reasons as corresponding independent claims. In view of the allowability of base claims over Guck, it is respectfully submitted that the obviousness rejection of dependent claims 3 and 11 over Guck and Krueger has been overcome.

Allowance of all claims is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025 (200208575-1).

Respectfully submitted,

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